

Serial No. 09/804,081

REMARKS

The Examiner's remarks that claims 6 and 12 contain allowable subject matter and why they do so are noted with appreciation. To advance prosecution, claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form; thus, claims 6 and 12 should be immediately allowable.

Non-elected claims 8 to 11 have been canceled to advance prosecution. Applicants will rely upon the protections afforded by 35 USC 121 for any divisional application filed directed to that subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 4; the latter claim has been canceled.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, and 7 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by the newly cited patent to Opey et al. '247 is moot in view of the incorporation into claim 1 of features of a claim not so rejected. It is believed that the rejection of claim 3 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Opey et al. '247 in view of Yuyama et al. '983 is also moot in view of the amendment to claim 1.

The rejection of claims 4 and 5 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Ophey et al. '247 in view of Ota et al. '438, if applied to claims 1 and 5, is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner acknowledges that the primary reference does not show the presence of a layer formed of a resin composition with a lower light refractive index than the refractive index of the transparent layer. The Examiner asserts that the secondary reference shows such a layer and it would be obvious to so modify the Ophey et al. '247 article in order to increase the antireflective properties in film.

Applicants respectfully submit that the person of ordinary skill in the art after a consideration of these references would not be motivated to provide a layer on the grating shown in Figs. 6 and 7 of Ophey et al. '247.

Ota et al. '438 describes providing a fine roughness 20 (see Fig. 2) on the outermost layer of the film to impart an anti-glaring effect (see col. 7, lines 12 to 15). There is no indication in the reference of forming fine concaves and convexes at a predetermined pitch not exceeding the wavelength of light in order to obtain an antireflection effect. Thus, there is no proper

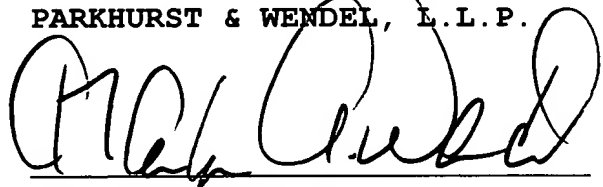
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reason to combine these teachings to arrive at the present invention. Lastly, applicants point out that Ota et al. '238 refers to a "low refractive-index layer" but no frame of reference is given. There is no mention in the reference that layer 3 has a refractive index lower than the refractive index of the transparent layer. Thus, the artisan would not be directed to the present invention from a joint consideration of Ophey et al. '247 and Ota et al. '438. The rejection should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration of the application is earnestly solicited.

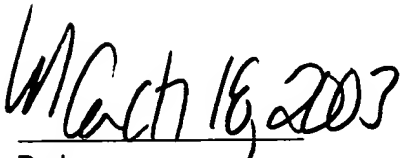
Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) An antireflection film comprising:
a transparent layer formed of a cured product of an ionizing
radiation-curable resin composition; ~~and~~

a concave-convex portion provided on one side of the
transparent layer, the concave-convex portion having a specific
continuous and regular shape comprising fine concaves and convexes
continuously provided at a predetermined pitch of not more than
the wavelength of light; and

a layer, provided on the fine concaves and convexes, formed
of a resin composition having a lower light refractive index than
a refractive index of the transparent layer.

2. The antireflection film according to claim 1, wherein
the transparent layer is backed by a transparent substrate film.

3. The antireflection film according to claim 1, wherein
the transparent layer has a surface hardness of not less than
H in terms of pencil hardness.

4. The antireflection film according to claim 1, which
further comprises, provided on the concaves and convexes, a layer
formed of a resin composition having lower light refractive index
than the transparent layer.

5. The antireflection film according to claim 1, which has
antistatic properties.

6. (Twice Amended) A polarizing element comprising: a
polarizing plate; and, stacked on the polarizing plate, ~~the an~~
antireflection film ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising:

a transparent layer formed of a cured product of an ionizing
radiation-curable resin composition; and

a concave-convex portion provided on one side of the
transparent layer,

the concave-convex portion having a specific continuous
and regular shape comprising fine concaves and convexes
continuously provided at a predetermined pitch of not more than
the wavelength of light.

7. A display device comprising: a display section; and,
stacked or disposed on the display section in its viewer side,